THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 24 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Southwest monsoon rainfall in June-Sept period above normal

India received as much as 927.3 mm of rainfall against the normal seasonal rainfall of 861.3 mm despite the absence of the La Nina factor. IMD had earlier predicted that the La Nina factor would come into play during the second half of the monsoon. But there was no show. A scientist said they are yet to figure out the reasons for the bountiful rain. Curiously, the Gangetic plains had deficient rainfall, while arid regions received excess rainfall.

FIR registered against Nirmala for 'extortion' in name of electoral bonds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

An FIR was registered against Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**, Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials, BJP state president BY Vijayendra and others by the Tilaknagar police in the city's southeast division on Saturday.

The FIR was based on a private complaint filed by Adarsh R Iyer, co-president of the Janaadhikaara Sangharsha Parishath (JSP), alleging extortion by Nirmala and others through now-scrapped electoral bonds. Iyer stated in his complaint that the accused extorted corporates and money bags to the tune of Rs 8,000 crore.

The FIR (Number 0224/2024) was registered after directions from the 42 Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) of the Special Court for People's Representatives that had passed the order on Friday. The court had directed the station house officer of Tilaknagar police station to register the FIR.

Nirmala has been named accused number 1, former BJP state president Naleen Kumar as accused number 4 and Vijayendra as accused number 5. BJP state and national office-bearers too have been named as other accused.

The police have invoked Sections 384 (punishment for extortion) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) read with 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the IPC.

Iyer, a resident of Mahalakshmi Layout in the city, has alleged in his complaint that Nirmala used ED to carry out raids, seizures and arrests of various corporates, their CEOs, MDs, etc for extortion. Putting the fear of ED raids, many corporates and moneybags were coerced and coaxed into buying electoral bonds worth several crores, he charged. P4

ONLY ISSUE LEFT IS VACATING PoK: EAM TO PAK

Jaishankar says dysfunctional nation coveting lands of others must be exposed

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday lit into Pakistan for making cross-border terror part of its state policy and said the only issue left to be resolved is the vacation of illegally occupied Indian territory by Pakistan.

"Countries get left behind due to circumstances beyond their control but some make conscious choices with disastrous consequences a premier example is our neighbour Pakistan," said Jaishankar while addressing the UN General Assembly in New York.

Jaishankar said that the misdeeds of countries like Pakistan affect others as well, especially the neighbourhood when its policy instills such fanaticism among its people that its GDP can only be measured in terms of radicalisation and its exports in the form of terrorism.

RELEVANCE OF THE UN

"The world has changed profoundly and so have its concerns and opportunities. To address both and strengthen the order, it is essential that the UN be the central platform for finding common ground and that it certainly cannot be by remaining anachronistic," External Affairs Minister Jaishankar said.

"Today we see the ills it sought to visit on others consume its own society. It can't blame it on the world; this is one karma," he quipped.

A dysfunctional nation (Pakistan) coveting the lands of others must be exposed and must be countered. "I heard some bizarre assertions at this very forum yesterday so let me make India's position perfectly clear. Pakistan's cross-border terrorism policy will never succeed and it can have no expectation of impunity. On the contrary actions will certainly have consequences. The issue to be resolved between us now is only the vacation of the illegally occupied Indian territory by Pakistan and of course the abandonment of Pakistan's long standing attachment to terrorism," Jaishankar said.

He also spoke about the resolution of conflicts through dialogue and reforms in the UN, which began with 51 members and now has 193.

WITH THIS ISSUE
GEN Z-KASHMIR
A NEW TIDE
PLUS 12 PAGES
MAGAZINE

Hezbollah confirms death of leader Nasrallah in Israeli strike

AGENCIES

HEZBOLLAH on Saturday confirmed the death of its leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in an Israeli strike, which dealt a body blow to the Iran-backed terror outfit. Israel had bombarded Hezbollah's headquarters in Beirut below residential buildings on Friday where Nasrallah was holed up, but took 24 hours to confirm the hit.

Nasrallah has joined his fellow martyrs, a statement from Hezbollah said adding it would continue its war against Israel for Palestine.

Following his death, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is said to have been shifted to a secure location inside his country amid high security, *Reuters* reported. Khamenei declared five days of mourning for Nasrallah.

An orange ball of flame rises up in the air after an Israeli airstrike in the southern suburbs of Beirut | AP

"I... offer my condolences for the martyrdom of the great Nasrallah and his martyred companions and announce five days of public mourning in Islamic Iran," he said in a statement. Israel said it carried out the precise airstrike on Friday when the Hezbollah leadership were at their headquarters south of Beirut.

Lebanese Health Ministry said six persons were killed and 91 injured in Israeli strike on its HQ. Besides Nasrallah, Abbas Nilforushan, a prominent general of Revolutionary Guard, died in the same airstrike, according to Iran's official *IRNA* news agency.

Hashem Safieddine, a cousin of Nasrallah, could be the "most likely" successor to Hezbollah, *AFP* reported. Both the US and Saudi Arabia have put Safieddine, a senior member of Hezbollah's powerful decision-making Shura Council, on their respective lists as designated "terrorists" in 2017.

Meanwhile, the UN refugee chief said on Saturday that 50,000 people fled to Syria amid escalating Israeli air strikes on Lebanon. "More than 50,000 Lebanese and Syrians living in Lebanon have now crossed into Syria fleeing Israeli air strikes," Filippo Grandi said on X, adding that "well over 200,000 people are displaced inside Lebanon".

Israelis welcomed Nasrallah's elimination. P9

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
DIRECTORATE MAHARASHTRA TOURISM

Eknath Shinde
Chief Minister

TOURISM FOR TOMORROW

Maharashtra launches new tourism policy aimed at the State's future growth and development

A 10-year vision to attract an investment of Rs. 100,000 crores, create 18 million jobs and double the tourist arrivals

Aids & Incentives
• Capital investment incentives. • Interest subsidy incentives. • CGST tax reimbursement. • Other financial incentives for micro, small, and medium enterprises. • Electricity duty exemption. • Stamp duty and registration fee exemptions. • Additional incentives for women entrepreneurs, Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes, and differently abled individuals.

Encouraging participation in fairs & expos
• Incentives for tourism stakeholders to participate in domestic and international tourism exhibitions, travel shows, and marts. • Incentives for organizing rural tourism fairs/annual fairs.

Promoting new & existing tourism services
• Incentives for youth tourism. • Incentives for agriculture, caravan, and adventure tourism. • Incentives for sustainable & wellness tourism.

Boosting research & development
• Incentives for skill development programs. • Incentives for research in the tourism/hospitality industry. • Incentives for information and communication technology empowerment.

Preserving culture & environment
• Incentives for reviving rare arts, culture, and cuisine. • Incentives for environmental tourism certification.

Opening new paths to empowerment & excellence
• Incentives for employing differently-abled individuals. • Tourism awards to honour excellence in the industry

For More Information: Head Office, Mumbai: 022 69107600
Konkan – 022-20876416 / 27560002, Nagpur – 0712-2533327, Pune – 020-29900289,
Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar – 0240-2990457, Amravati – 0271-2661611, Nashik – 0253-2995464

To know more: Send **MTP2024** to +91 9403878864
Follow us on: MaharashtraTourismOfficial @maha_tourism
maharashtratourismofficial www.maharashtratourism.gov.in

For more information scan the qr code

Eknath Shinde, Chief Minister | Devendra Fadnavis, Dy. Chief Minister | Ajit Pawar, Dy. Chief Minister | Girish Mahajan, Tourism Minister

Directorate of Tourism, Tourism Department, Govt. of Maharashtra